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Vegetable Situation

Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Approved by the World Food and Agricultural Outlook and Situation Board

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THE VEGETABLE SITUATION

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SUMMARY

Vegetable Supplies Up, Prices Ease Down

Increased supplies of both fresh and processed vegetables point to lower producer prices than a year ago for fresh, and less upward pressure on retail prices this fall. Supplies of fresh vegetable for 1979 will be 3-4 percent larger than last year's total, and about a tenth more vegetables will be processed. Prices to fresh vegetable growers this year will advance seasonally this fall but will probably remain below year-earlier levels. Retail prices for processed vegetables this fall and winter will reflect substantial increases in processing and marketing costs but will remain near or moderately above the prices consumers paid a year ago.

Vegetable acreage for fall production of 14 major fresh vegetables is expected to be 3 percent less than in 1978. But based on average yields, production of these vegetables is projected at 48.2 million cwt., virtually the same as last year's production of 48.3 million cwt.

For the fall quarter, larger supplies of snap beans, carrots, celery, sweet corn, eggplant, escarole-endive, green peppers, and spinach are expected. Among the processed vegetables, green lima beans, snap beans, beets, green peas, winter spinach and tomatoes will be plentiful.

Wholesale prices for canned vegetables rose steadily during the past year, and in September were 7 percent above the September, 1978, level. Even with supplies up about a tenth during the 1979/80 marketing season, increased processing and marketing costs will probably keep prices near or moderately above year-earlier levels.

The supply-price picture is essentially the same for frozen vegetables—supplies will be up during 1979/80, but retail prices will remain near last year because of increased marketing costs. Increased costs of refrigerated freight, in particular, will influence costs of marketing frozen foods.

With a smaller crop of fall potatoes in prospect—about 7 percent below the 1978 record—grower prices may increase from reduced levels of the past two years. Potato prices were low throughout the 1978/79 marketing season and reflecting a

record fall crop and ample spring and summer crops which kept prices depressed. Average grower prices are expected to rebound this fall to somewhere in the $3.25-$3.50 per cwt. neighborhood, up from $3.11 per cwt. a year earlier, as the smaller crop will be met with generally good demand in both the fresh and processing markets. Exports of both dehydrated and frozen potatoes continue to expand, particularly to Japan.

Per capita consumption of fresh potatoes continued to decline in 1978, down 5.2 pounds to 48.8 pounds per person, while consumption of processed potatoes increased 7.4 pounds to 75.1 pounds per person. Consumption of frozen potatoes increased 4.0 pounds to 43.9 pounds per person, accounting for more than half of the increase in consumption of processed potatoes.

The 1979 crop of dry beans is 4 percent larger than a year earlier, and a fifth greater than in 1977. Unusually heavy yields in Michigan and Idaho helped to make this larger crop despite the moderate acreage reduction this season. With a larger crop, prices are likely to be under pressure. However, exports will have a strong impact on domestic prices and prospects are unclear at this time.

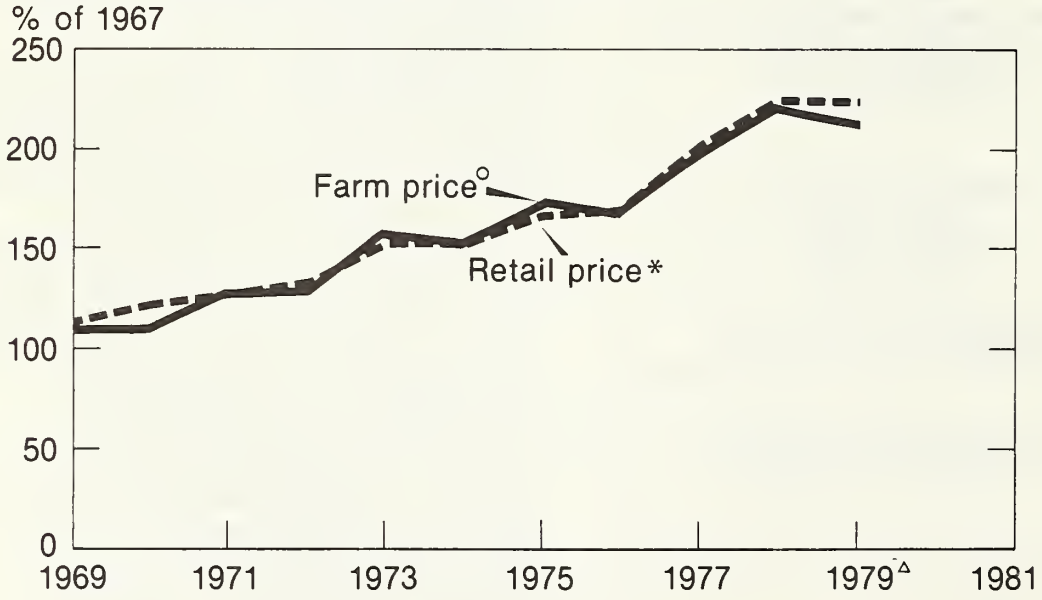
RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND OUTLOOK

FRESH VEGETABLES

The 1979 supply of fresh vegetables and melons varied among seasons with increased supplies in the winter quarter and smaller supplies in the summer quarter. Supplies during the past spring and prospects for this fall are virtually unchanged from totals of the two previous years. The substantially larger winter crop was partially offset by a 9-percent reduction in imports during the January-March period. Smaller supplies in the summer quarter resulted primarily from a reduction in harvested acreage.

Vegetable acreage for fall production of 14 major fresh vegetables is expected to be 3 percent less than in 1978. Based on average yields production of these vegetables is projected at 48.2 million cwt., virtually the same as last year's

Fresh Vegetable Price Indexes



△First 8 months. *Derived from Bureau of Labor Statistics (excluding potatoes).
°Commercial vegetables for fresh market, ESCS-USDA.

Fresh vegetable supplies[1]

Supply	1978	1979
	1,000 cwt.	
U.S. winter production-major States	33,273	34,040
U.S. spring production-major States	60,700	61,947
U.S. spring onions	5,673	5,944
Imports (Jan.-June)	17,402	18,953
Total six months supply	117,048	120,884
U.S. summer production-major States	70,655	[2] 69,673
U.S. fall production-major States	49,566	[2] 49,546
U.S. summer onions	22,013	22,911
Imports (July-Dec.)	18,787	N.A.
Annual supply	278,069	+3-4 %

[1] Includes melons. [2] Based on historical average yields. [3] Includes Californiaa.

N.A.—Not available.

production of 48.3 million cwt. Larger production is expected for snap beans, carrots, celery, sweet corn, eggplant, escarole-endive, green peppers and spinach. Smaller production is indicated for broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, cucumbers, lettuce, and tomatoes.

Lower Prices in 1979/80

Fresh market vegetable prices to growers during the winter quarter of 1979 were sharply higher than during the same period a year earlier. In April, farm prices dipped below year-earlier levels and, except in August, remained there through September. The index of prices received for fresh market vegetables stood at 174 (1967=100) in September, compared with 183 a year earlier.

For the remainder of 1979, prices will rise seasonally, but will probably remain below year-earlier levels during the fourth quarter. Retail vegetable prices in 1979 followed grower price patterns, but were somewhat less volatile. Demand for fresh vegetables was strong through the first quarter but weakened in the spring and summer. Demand will remain below year-earlier levels this fall and winter if the general level of economic activity declines, as expected. A recession would adversely affect the fast food and food service industries which are major contributors to the high level of demand for salad vegetables, particularly lettuce.

Quarterly index of farm prices for fresh vegetables[1]

Year	(1967=100)				
	1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.	Annual
1971	125	129	106	144	126
1972	134	126	123	133	129
1973	160	193	145	126	156
1974	143	164	144	159	152
1975	168	183	164	177	173
1976	184	158	169	182	173
1977	251	183	165	188	197
1978	202	258	189	189	209
1979	273	206	185		

[1] Excludes potatoes.

ESCS, USDA.

Quarterly retail prices for fresh vegetables[1]

Year	(1967=100)				
	1st.	2rn.	3rd.	4th.	Annual
1971	119	137	120	129	126
1972	137	134	128	133	133
1973	151	167	153	138	152
1974	150	160	152	151	153
1975	168	169	165	160	166
1976	170	168	165	179	170
1977	221	216	178	184	200
1978	212	247	209	204	218
1979[2]	254	224	211		

[1] Excludes potatoes. [2] Consumer Price Index-All Urban..

USDA estimate derived from Consumer Price Index.

Fresh Vegetable Exports Up

Fresh vegetable exports have never been large, but in recent years vegetable growers have shown increased interest in this area. Canada is our major export market and probably will continue to be.

The major export items among the fresh vegetables are lettuce, onions, tomatoes, celery, and carrots. Considerable quantities of melons are also exported to Canada. In 1978, exports of the major fresh vegetables totaled 1.59 billion pounds, the largest on record. Lettuce comprised nearly a quarter of the total exports of vegetables and melons. Tomatoes accounted for about 13 percent, and all melons combined were a tenth of fresh vegetable exports.

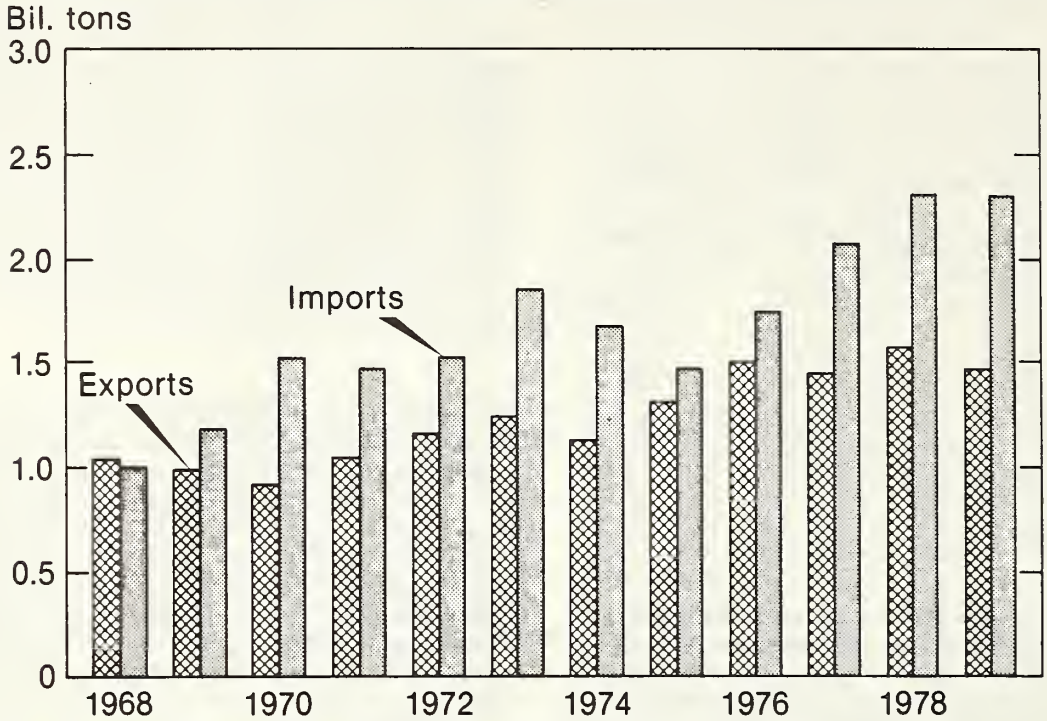
Exports of fresh vegetables so far in 1979 are expected to continue the upward trend of recent years. The extent to which exports will increase for the rest of 1979 and in 1980 depends on total U.S. supplies, domestic prices, and the value of the Canadian dollar in relation to the U.S. dollar.

Prospects for Leading Items

Onions

The production of summer storage onions is estimated at 19.6 million cwt., 4 percent larger than the 1978 total. Total production of non-storage and storage type onions in summer-producing States is placed at 33.1 million cwt., 9 percent higher than

Fresh Vegetables — Foreign Trade

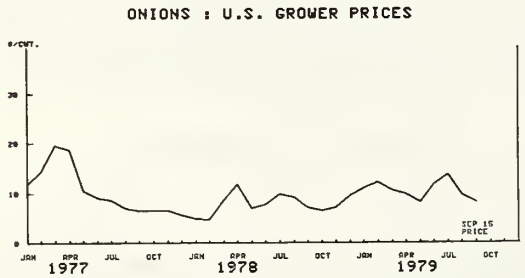


Fresh vegetables includes melons. 1979 estimated.

USDA Neg. ESCS 317-79 (10)

last year. (This includes California onions which are primarily for processing). Most of the increased production results from a 3-percent increase in the area harvested. However, yields were up also in all States except Colorado and Ohio.

Heavy rains in areas of New York caused some flooding of onion fields, but dry weather immediately following prevented serious losses. Dry weather in Michigan and Wisconsin were favorable for harvest and high-quality crops were expected in both States. Harvest of storage type onions was completed in late October in both Idaho and Colorado, and crops of excellent quality were reported. Washington's crop of storage type onions is of high quality and good size.



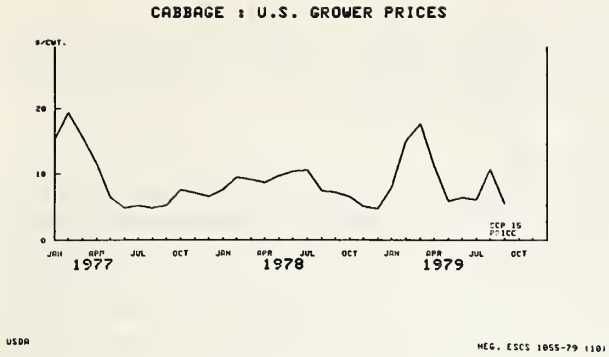
USDA NEG. ESCS 1057-79 (10)

Prices for 2 inches and larger yellow onions averaged $2.50 per 50-pound sack f.o.b. Orange County, New York, shipping points in late October. This is down 50 cents from the year-earlier level. Yellow Spanish types, 3 inches and larger, f.o.b. Idaho and Oregon averaged $2.93 per 50-pound sack, down 16 percent from the year before. However, prices for the large white Spanish types were running higher than in 1978.

For 1980, Texas spring crop onion growers intend to plant 23,300 acres—about 5 percent less than last year and 10 percent less than in 1978. In the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, rainfall has been plentiful and moisture conditions are good, although excess moisture in some areas delayed plantings. In the Winter Garden and Laredo areas, plantings were on schedule in October.

Cabbage

Cabbage acreage for fall harvest is set at 28,650 acres, about the same as the final outturn in 1978. With average yields this will result in a crop of 7.97 million cwt., marginally smaller than last fall.

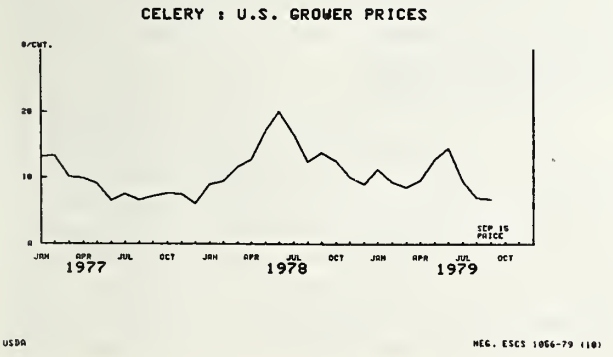


In New York—the largest volume producer of fall cabbage—early cabbage was damaged by dry hot weather. Late cabbage is in good condition, but excessive rains in some areas from Hurricane Frederic severely decreased yields due to delay in field operations and bursting heads. Most other States have had favorable weather throughout the growing season.

Prices for cabbage, f.o.b. shipping points in western and central New York averaged $2.33 per 50-pound sack in early October, compared with $3.30 on a comparable date a year ago. Prices for New York cabbage at the wholesale level in New York City were also running about 75 cents per carton lower than a year earlier. Prices are expected to remain below year-earlier levels throughout the season.

Celery

Fall acreage in the four principal celery-producing States—California, Florida, Michigan, and New York—is placed at 10.1 thousand acres, 3 percent more than last year. Based on average yields, a crop of 5.18 million cwt. is expected to be produced, 2 percent more than in 1978. New York's crop was reduced because of some flooding and labor problems. Growers in Florida were behind schedule because of excessive rains in September. First harvests of celery from Florida and southern California will be marketed in early November.

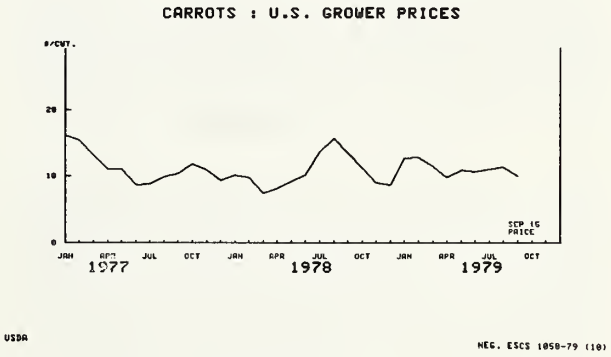


Shipping point prices for celery have been running lower than a year earlier. During the week of October 6, celery was selling for $4.88 per 2-3 dozen crate, f.o.b. central Michigan shipping points, down from $7.75 on the same date in 1978. Prices f.o.b. Orange County averaged $5.25 per crate, compared with $7.10 a year earlier. With a slightly larger celery crop in prospect, prices are not expected to strengthen this fall.

Carrots

The acreage of carrots for harvest this fall is estimated at 25.4 thousand acres, 8 percent larger than last year's fall crop. If average yields are obtained, a crop of 7.9 million cwt. will be produced, up 13 percent from last year's output. Acreage increases are expected in all of the major producing States except Texas, (down 6 percent) and New York and Washington, where acreage is the same as last year.

Harvest of carrots in Michigan was nearly complete on October 1. Dry weather hindered completion of the harvest earlier. Yields in Oregon and Washington were expected to be good and the quality of the crop is excellent. California's crop is being harvested in the Salinas Valley and Kern County districts. Carrots have been planted in the desert areas in August; harvest will begin the first of December.



Carrot prices have been running lower than last year. During the week of October 6, a 48-pound sack of 1-pound bags of carrots averaged $5.00 f.o.b. Salinas, California, compared with $5.60 on a comparable date a year earlier. With prospects of a much larger crop, prices will ease off from current levels.

Sweet Corn

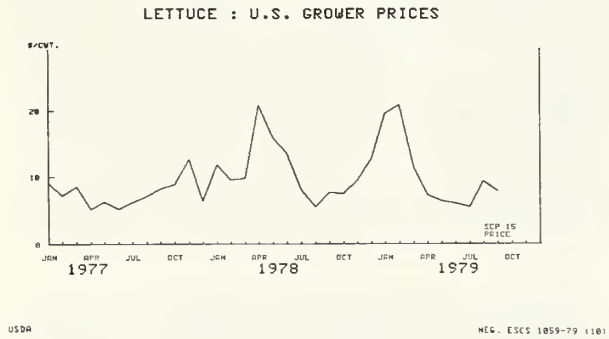
Most of the sweet corn during the fall quarter comes from the Florida Everglades, where 13,000 acres are for harvest this year, the same as in 1978. California acreage is down, however, so total

production will come from 3 percent fewer acres. Based on average yields, the fall crop of sweet corn is expected to total 1.11 million cwt., 6 percent greater than last year's production. With a larger crop in Florida, consumers in the eastern portion of the country will enjoy bountiful supplies of fresh sweet corn this fall. Consumers in the west will have less, and supplies may be depleted in early December.

Lettuce

With acreage of fall lettuce down 12 percent in Arizona—the second-largest producing State—total lettuce acreage for the fall quarter is 4 percent less than a year ago, as acreage increases in Florida and New Jersey failed to make up the difference. Lettuce acreage in California, at 35,500 acres, is estimated to be the same as last year. Based on average yields, production of fall lettuce is estimated to be 13.6 million cwt., virtually the same as a year ago.

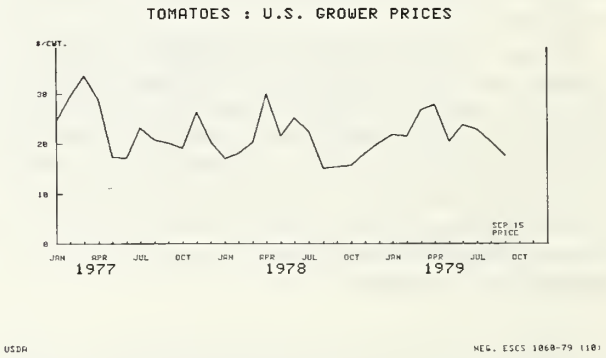
Lettuce acreage in some areas of New Jersey was hard hit by excessive rains in September and early October, and stands are below par. However, much of the crop looks good and supplies should continue through early November. In Florida, plantings were interrupted by excessive rains in the Everglades, but supplies should be ample through November. The fall lettuce crop in California looks good. The lettuce harvest moved from the Salinas Valley to Kern, Kings, and Fresno Counties in the San Joaquin Valley in October. Harvest will begin in the desert areas in December.



Lettuce prices are extremely volatile and may vary widely from day to day, depending on weather, labor disputes, or the availability of transportation. So far this season, however, prices for iceberg-type lettuce have been averaging substantially higher at California shipping points than at the same time a year ago. October prices for iceberg-type lettuce stood at $5.75 per carton (24 heads), f.o.b. Salinas Valley, California, compared with $3.13 per carton at the same time a year ago. These higher prices are primarily the result of higher wage rates for harvest laborers negotiated between the United Farm Workers Union and lettuce growers this summer.

Tomatoes

U.S. acreage for harvest for fall tomatoes, at 23.1 thousand acres, are 6 percent smaller than in 1978. If average yields are obtained, production will total about 5 million cwt., 5 percent less than a year earlier. Florida expects an excellent crop, and harvest has begun in the Palmetto-Ruskin area. Fresh market tomato harvest is active in all producing areas of California. Heaviest movement of the fall crop is expected from the south coastal areas. California and Florida account for more than 95 percent of the U.S. production of fall tomatoes. Small amounts are marketed by Alabama and Texas.



Prices for fall tomatoes will rise seasonally through November and December. However, the smaller crop has already pushed prices above year-earlier levels. Two-layer flats (4x5 - 5x6's), f.o.b. southern California shipping points, were priced at $5.65 per flat in early October, more than two-thirds higher than on a comparable date a year ago.

PROCESSED VEGETABLES

Larger Supplies of Processed Vegetables

The area contracted for production of seven major processing vegetable crops in 1979 is estimated at 1.5 million acres, 5 percent more than in 1978. Raw tonnage production under contract is expected to approximate 11.3 million tons, about 11 percent more than was produced last year. Production increases are expected for green lima beans, snap beans, beets, green peas, winter spinach, and tomatoes. Highlighting this season are

large tonnage increases of tomatoes and green peas. Processors of both canned and frozen green peas attempted to build up stocks, and unusually heavy yields from a tenth larger acreage of tomatoes mean generous packs of some tomato products. The tonnage of sweet corn and spring spinach will probably be smaller than in 1978. Contracted acreage for cabbage for kraut, cucumbers for pickles and fall spinach will be reported later.

Canned vegetable supplies and disappearances,[1]

Year	Pack and carryover	Disappearance
	Million cases 24/303's	
1975/76	408	334
1976/77	387	327
1977/78	390	337
1978/79	390	336
1979/80	[2] 409	—

[1] 10 items combined which account for roughtly 50-55 percent of raw product tonnage. [2] Projected-based on Sept./Oct. ESCS raw tonnage estimates.

The carryover of leading canned vegetables was only slightly larger than last year. Stocks of frozen vegetables on September 30, at 1.9 billion pounds, were 7 percent above year-earlier levels. The data on contracted acreage are not categorized for canning or freezing, but the current stocks positions indicate both outlets will have about the same percentage increases. Most of the increase in canned tonnage will come from the 18-percent larger tomato crop. With these larger packs supplies of both canned and frozen vegetables will be adequate to generous during the 1979/80 marketing year. Reflecting these bountiful supplies, wholesale prices for canned and frozen vegetables will remain near year-earlier levels.

Any price increases will result from increases in processing and marketing costs. Some of these costs have risen substantially during the past year. For example, the tinplate cost index (WPI Code 1031-0101) rose 16 percent between May, 1978, and May, 1979. During the same period, the index of prices for aluminum foil rose 14 percent. Canning workers wage rates rose 7.7 percent in 1979, and the monthly index of rail rates in August 1979 stood at 228.9 (1967=100) compared with 212.9 a year earlier.

Much of the gain in processing vegetable tonnage is coming from California tomatoes which do not compete directly with other fresh and processed vegetables. However, there are also larger crops of green lima beans, snap beans, beets, green peas, and winter spinach—items which are often substituted for each other, depending upon relative prices. For example, the large pack of green beans expected this year probably will tend to depress the prices of peas, corn, and other canned items.

The total supply (pack plus carryover) of canned vegetables for 1979/80 will probably be about 5 percent larger than the nearly identical amounts in 1977 and 1978. The larger total supply will result almost entirely from a larger pack since the carryover in 1979 exceeded the 1978 figure by only a few thousand cases.

Wholesale prices for canned vegetables rose steadily during the past year, and in September the index of prices for 10 leading vegetables stood at 193.7 (1967=100), compared with 180.7 a year earlier. With promotional allowances and off-the-line price cuts numerous, it is likely that prices will be about the same as last year. In spite of larger supplies of both canned and frozen vegetables, prices likely will be near last year's level because of rising costs of processing and marketing. On September 14, an additional 1.1 percent was added to the current 2.4-percent surcharge for fuel costs. In addition, a 12-percent increase in mechanical refrigeration charges was granted to rails effective August 28. Under the new rates, costs of shipping a carton of 10 ounce packages of frozen vegetables from Oregon to Chicago moved up to 61.2 cents per case—up 1.2 cents and the cost per 30-pound tin rose to $1.15—up 2 cents. A general rate increase of 7.4 percent was granted on October 15. With increased built-in costs of processing and marketing frozen vegetables there will be fewer promotional allowances this year despite plentiful supplies. Stocks of frozen vegetables on October 1 were 1.9 billion pounds, 7 percent more than last year.

Frozen vegetables stocks, October 1

Commodity	1977	1978	1979
		Mil. lbs.	
Lima beans	68.3	91.3	108.3
Snap beans	175.3	211.5	223.9
Sweet corn[1]	443.1	488.2	473.8
Green peas[2]	319.4	335.5	374.6
Spinach	83.8	61.0	78.0
Broccoli	91.7	94.6	94.5
Carrots[2]	56.5	78.0	82.2
All frozen (excluding potatoes)	1,601.9	1,360.1	1,435.3

[1] Sweet corn on-cob not converted to cut equivalent. [2] Peas and carrots mixed not included.

Prospects for Leading Items

Peas

The tonnage of peas for canning and freezing this year was placed at 526,560 tons, and the

Canned green peas: Supply and disappearance

	1977/78	1978/79	1979/80
	Mil. cases 24/303's	*Mil. cases 24/303's*	*Mil. cases 24/303's*
Carryover	7.7	4.4	1.6
Pack	30.2	25.3	—
Total supply	37.9	29.7	—
Disappearance	33.5	28.1	—

Canned snap beans: Supply and disappearance

	1977/78	1978/79	1979/80
	Mil. cases 24/303's	*Mil. cases 24/303's*	*Mil. cases 24/303's*
Carryover	5.7	5.0	6.2
Pack	54.5	57.1	—
Total supply	60.2	62.1	—
Disappearance	55.2	55.9	—

combined pack of canned and frozen peas was substantially larger than last season. Total supplies are larger than in 1978 but well below the more-normal 1977 level. Wholesale prices through September were steady and slightly higher than a year ago, but some weakness may develop if packs of competing items turn out as large as expected.

The 1979 pack of frozen peas is estimated at 406.5 million pounds, according to the American Frozen Food Institute. This represents an increase of 48.8 million pounds, 14 percent over the 1978 pack. Stocks on hand on September 1 were 386.9 million pounds, 10 percent more than last year. With current heavy supplies, prices are expected to decline. The extent of the decline will depend on marketing costs during the balance of the marketing season and supplies of competing frozen vegetables.

Lima Beans

Lima bean tonnage for canning and freezing is 83,220 tons, only slightly more than last year. Increased contracted tonnage in California accounts for nearly all of the increase. Production in nearly all other States is expected to decline in 1979.

Most of the tonnage in California will be frozen. Carryover stocks of both fordhooks and baby lima beans were at high levels this year, and the expected pack totals will be slightly larger than in 1978 but substantially smaller than in 1977. Total supplies of frozen lima beans should be approximately 168 million pounds, about 9 percent more than during the preceding year. Prices will remain near year-earlier levels.

The carryover of canned lima beans on September 1 was approximately 400 thousand cases (24-303's), slightly more than a year earlier but well below the 1977 level. With yields expected to be higher this year, the total pack will be up and supplies will be more than adequate to maintain recent historical movement. Prices will be about the same as last year or slightly lower depending on movement.

Snap Beans

The estimated tonnage of snap beans for canning and freezing is a sixth larger in 1979 than a year earlier. The carryover of canned green beans, at 6.2 million cases (24/303's) was also larger than during the past 2 years. The 1979 pack is also expected to be up substantially, resulting in heavier supplies in 1979/80. Prices will decline from the current level which is higher than a year earlier. Snap beans, along with canned peas and sweet corn, are volume leaders among canned vegetables and are often used as price leaders by retailers.

Carryover stocks of frozen green beans totaled 194 million pounds on September 1, moderately more than a year earlier. By October 1, stocks had reached 224 million pounds. During September, prices stood at about $6.80 per case of 24/9 ounce packages, compared with $6.55 a year earlier. Institutional packs were selling for 42 cents per pound compared with 41 cents a year ago. Processors and freezers had anticipated a large pack of frozen green beans this year, but heavy rains in the Northeast reduced estimates somewhat. If the total pack is reduced below the anticipated 335 million pounds, prices will remain firm throughout the 1979/80 season. If a large pack materializes, some further price declines can be expected.

Sweet Corn

Processing volume of 2.3 million tons is 4 percent smaller than last year. Most of the producing States show declines in production; only Idaho and Wisconsin show increases. The Pacific Northwest States—Washington and Oregon—which do most of the freezing of corn are showing declines.

With another large carryover of canned corn, coupled with the prospect of a larger-than-average pack, supplies will be large this fall and winter. Some price declines and discount pricing can be

Canned sweet corn: Supply and disappearance

	1977/78	1878/79	1979/80
	Mil. cases 24/303's	*Mil. cases 24/303's*	*Mil. cases 24/303's*
Carryover	9.7	7.6	9.8
Pack	56.3	57.9	—
Total supply	66.0	65.5	—
Disappearance	58.4	55.7	—

expected this marketing season. Even if disappearance approaches the record of 58.4 million cases (24/303's) set 2 years ago, next year's carryout will be large and additional reductions in contracted acreage will be indicated.

The combined carryover of cut and on-cob frozen corn was one-fourth larger in 1979 than in 1978. Stocks on September 1 totaled 270 million pounds, 9 percent more than a year earlier. However, a smaller total pack is expected to reduce supplies slightly, below the 1978/79 level. Prices for frozen corn have been under some downward pressure. Food service and institutional packs have been selling at 31 cents per pound compared with 33 cents at the same time a year ago.

Tomatoes

Increased acreage and improved yields are responsible for a substantial increase in tomato tonnage in California this year. California is expected to produce about 86 percent of the processing tomatoes. Contracted tonnage in other States declined slightly from year-earlier levels. Tonnage was down particularly in California's 2 major competitors, Indiana and Ohio.

Heavy deliveries to California canners combined with a heavy carryover portends sharply increased supplies of canned tomatoes and tomato products throughout the 1979/80 marketing year. As a result, wholesale prices of nearly all tomato items have weakened in recent weeks. California canned tomatoes, standard grade 6/10's were bringing $7.00-$7.25 per case in early September, $1.75 less than a year ago. California tomato products are also moving for less, but East and Midwest prices are generally not down to the same extent, reflecting the moderately reduced supplies of raw product from last year in these two regions. The East and Midwest usually account for 14-16 percent of the total tomato tonnage.

Canned tomatoes: Supply and disappearance

	1977/78	1978/79	1979/80
	Mil. cases 24/303's		
Carryover	9.4	16.0	1.5
Pack	54.1	49.2	—
Total supply	63.5	65.2	—
Disappearance	47.5	50.6	—

Canned tomato juice: Supply and disappearance

	1977/78	1978/79	1979/80
	Mil. cases 24/303's		
Carryover	8.8	5.5	6.2
Pack	27.8	33.9	—
Total supply	36.6	34.9	—
Disappearance	31.1	33.2	—

Other Processed Vegetables

Contracted acreage for *canning beets* totaled 16,870 acres and 236,410 tons in 1979, up substantially from both 1978 and 1977. The pack from this tonnage, combined with a large carryover of 2.9 million cases (24/303's) will yield a near-record supply of about 17 million cases for the 1979/80 marketing year. Prices will remain firm, however, in response to strong demand for canned beets. The tonnage of *cabbage for sauerkraut* is expected to be 4 percent larger than in 1978. Combined with a small carryover of 2.2 million cases (24/303's) this should yield about 14 million cases, our usual supply for the year.

Frozen *broccoli* stocks on October 1 totaled 95 million pounds, about the same as a year-earlier level. Bountiful supplies of frozen *cauliflower*, a major substitute for broccoli, may keep prices down. Supplies of frozen cauliflower on October 1 stood at 67 million pounds, 28 percent more than a year earlier. Prices for frozen cauliflower have ranged widely and show some weakness. With generally large supplies of all frozen vegetables and the substitutability of one vegetable for another, frozen vegetable prices will remain near year-earlier levels.

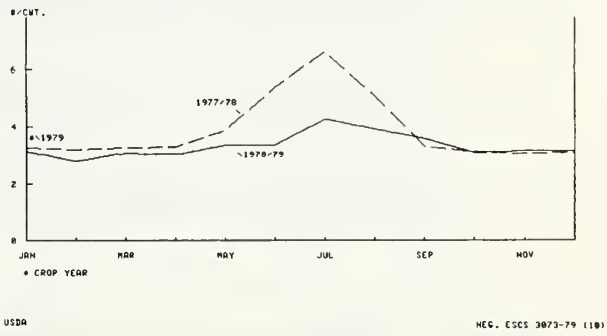
POTATOES

Smaller Crop This Year

The 1978/79 potato season was one of record large supplies. The 1978 crop, at 365 million cwt., was 3 percent larger than the 1977 crop and 2 percent larger than the 1976 output, the previous record. The 1978 crop was harvested from 1.37 million acres, only one percent more than a year earlier, but average yields were also at a record 266 cwt. per acre, thus boosting the total crop to a new high.

Had it not been for the diversion program which took 12 million cwt., prices would have been more depressed than they were. The diversion programs were probably of more benefit to eastern growers.

POTATOES: U.S. GROWER PRICES*



Grower prices in the Pacific Northwest remained on the low side most of the season.

Despite the large crop, exports of fresh potatoes did not increase during the 1978/79 season essentially because Canada had a large crop. Most of the exported fresh potatoes were shipped to Canada. Exports of dehydrated potatoes during October-August 1978/79 increased to 7.4 million cwt. (fresh weight equivalent), up from 6.6 million cwt. a year earlier. However, export of fresh potatoes declined to 2.7 million cwt., down from 3.5 a year earlier. Thus, total exports comprised about 3 percent of the total crop—the usual export pattern.

Exports of frozen and dehydrated potatoes are expected to continue to increase substantially because of the growing institutional and fast food markets in Japan where frozen french fries and instant mash potatoes are much in demand. In calendar year 1978, Japan imported 270,000 tons (fresh weight equivalent) of U.S. potato products.

The 1979 U.S. fall crop production is estimated at 300.3 million cwt., 7 percent less than the 1978 crop. This production will come from 1.07 million acres, also down 7 percent from a year earlier. Yields in 1979 are expected to average 280 cwt. per acre, the same as last year, but 10 cwt. per acre larger than in 1977.

Potato exports[1]

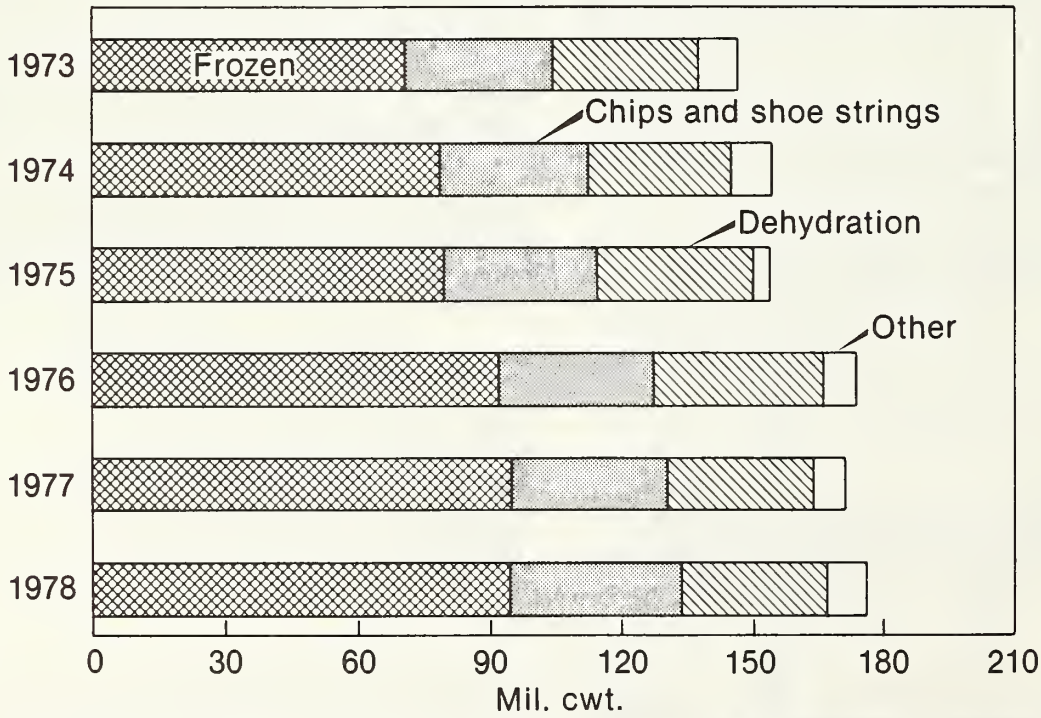
Crop year Oct.-Sept.	Dehydrated	fresh	Total	Percent of crop
	---Mil. cwt.---			
1973/74	2.2	5.7	7.9	3%
1974/75	1.7	4.0	5.7	2%
1975/76	10.6	10.6	21.2	6%
1976/77	15.7	10.3	26.0	7%
1977/78	6.6	3.5	10.1	3%
1978/79*	7.4	2.7	10.1	3%

[1] Fresh weight basis. [2] Oct. thru. Sept

*Oct.—Aug.

In the seven eastern fall States, production at 49.4 million cwt. is 4 percent above the year-earlier level because yields, particularly in Maine, were up substantially from last year's low levels. The average yield for the area is placed at 254 cwt. per acre, compared with 234 cwt. per acre in 1978. Harvest progressed well in Maine where production, at 28.2 million cwt., is up 9 percent over last season. New York has a high-quality crop and yields are good. The harvest in Pennsylvania, where the crop is estimated at 6.1 million cwt., is running more than a week ahead of last year.

Processed Potato Use



In the eight central States production is forecast at 63.5 million cwt., an 8-percent decrease from 1978. In North Dakota, heavy rains in July reduced the total yields. Below average yields are also expected in Wisconsin. Potatoes are below average in size but the quality is excellent. The harvest in Michigan and Minnesota progressed rapidly in October under clear skies.

Production in the western States, at 188 million cwt., is 9 percent below the 207 million cwt. produced in 1978. Both yields and acres planted are smaller than last year. Idaho's crop is above average in quality, but is not expected to equal last year's vintage quality. In Oregon harvest is on schedule, but in Washington harvest of both Norgolds and Russets is running behind schedule. The quality of the crop is average to slightly below average with more than a normal amount of hollow heart occurring.

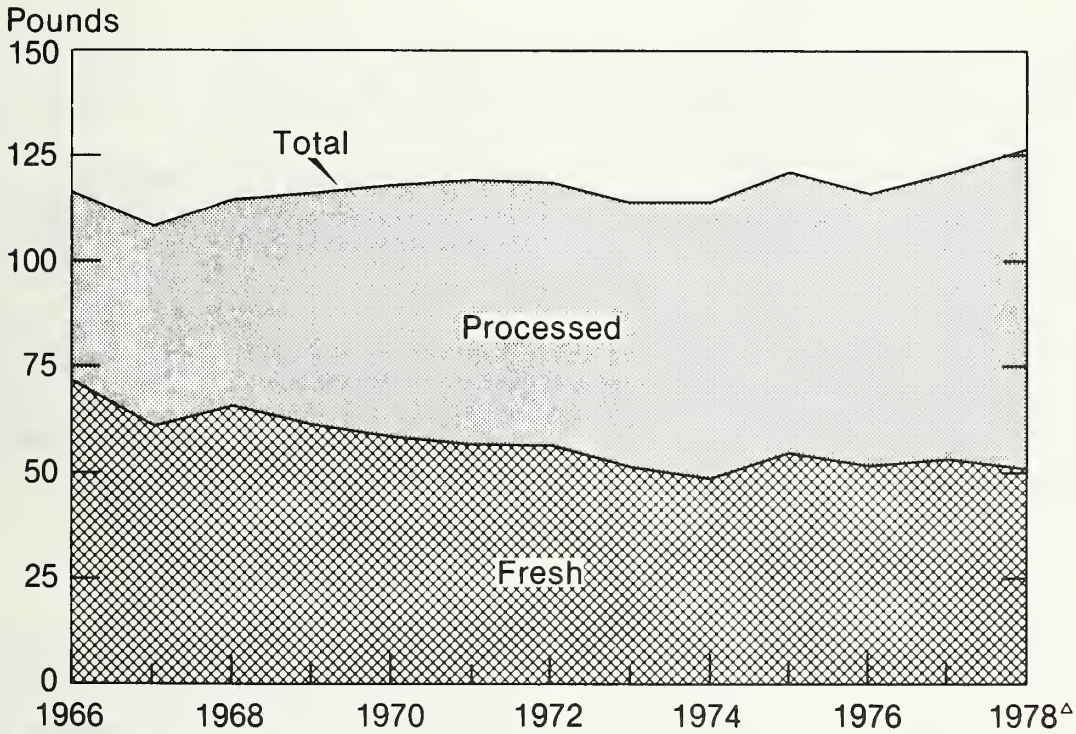
Price and Supply Implications

With a total fall crop 7 percent smaller than last year's record high, grower prices in the fourth quarter will increase and could average in the $3.25-$3.50 per cwt. range up from $3.11 per cwt. a year earlier. With generally good quality in all areas, grower prices might edge even higher during the first quarter of 1980. Processors anticipate a continued growth in exports of processed potatoes—particularly frozen french fries—to Japan, where there has been a rapid growth of the Western style, fast food industry. On October 1, stocks of frozen french fries totaled 539 million pounds, 4 percent less than a year earlier. With a smaller crop and expanding exports, prices to potato growers will average higher than during the past two years.

Per Capita Use Up

Consumption of potatoes in 1978 increased to 123.9 pounds per person as the continued decline in the consumption of fresh potatoes was more than offset by an increase in the consumption of frozen. In 1978, fresh consumption dipped to 48.8 pounds, while the consumption of frozen potatoes jumped 4 pounds per person to 43.9 pounds. Consumption of chips and dehydrated also increased, but disappearance of canned potatoes remained at the 2.0-2.5 pounds per person level.

Per Capita Consumption of Potatoes



△Preliminary.

USDA

Neg. ESCS 67-79 (10)

Production and per capita consumption of potatoes, 1960-78

Year	Production	Per capita consumption						
		Total fresh and processed	Fresh	Processed[1]				
				Total	Canned[2]	Frozen	Chips and shoestrings	Dehydrated
	Million cwt.	*Pounds*						
1965	291.1	107.0	68.2	38.8	1.7	14.3	15.8	7.0
1966	307.2	116.8	72.4	44.4	1.7	17.3	16.7	8.7
1967	305.8	108.0	62.0	46.0	1.7	19.0	16.9	8.4
1968	295.4	115.2	65.9	49.3	1.9	21.2	17.1	9.1
1969	312.6	116.9	61.7	55.2	2.0	24.6	17.7	10.9
1970	325.7	117.5	58.3	59.2	2.0	27.7	17.7	11.8
1971	319.3	118.7	56.8	61.9	2.2	30.3	17.3	12.1
1972	296.4	119.4	57.4	62.0	2.1	30.6	17.0	12.3
1973	300.0	116.8	51.9	64.9	2.3	33.2	16.6	12.8
1974	342.4	114.3	48.4	65.9	2.3	33.0	16.1	14.5
1975	322.3	122.1	55.0	67.1	2.0	34.7	15.9	14.5
1976	357.7	116.1	51.0	65.1	2.0	36.9	16.1	10.1
1977	354.6	121.6	51.5	70.0	2.3	39.9	16.7	11.2
1978[3]	365.2	123.9	48.8	75.1	2.3	43.9	17.5	11.4

[1] Fresh-weight basis. [2] Includes potatoes canned in soups, stews, and other combinations. [3] Preliminary.

SWEETPOTATOES

The 1979 sweetpotato crop is forecast at 14.8 million cwt, 4 percent larger than the 1978 crop. Production will be harvested from 122 thousand acres, 1 percent more than last year. Yields per acre will average 122 cwt., compared with 119 cwt. a year earlier.

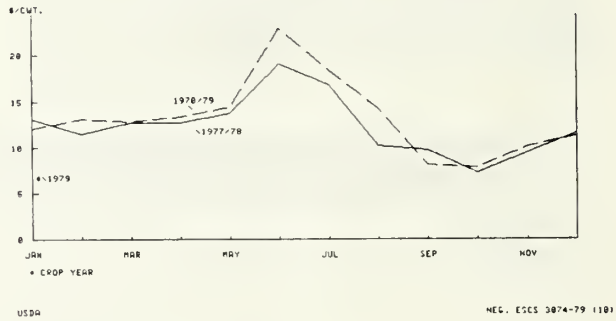
Above normal September rainfall has delayed sweetpotato harvest. In North Carolina, the leading sweetpotato State, growing conditions this year were good. Harvest was one-third complete in September. In Louisiana, the second-leading sweetpotato State, the crop is down slightly from the year-earlier level.

With canners' carryover stocks at record high levels, there is little incentive to pack heavily and grower prices in the processing market have been down. Canners' stocks totaled 2.2 million cases (24/303) in July, 1979, compared with less than 1 million a year earlier. As a result of the larger crop and larger stocks, canners have been paying North Carolina growers $1.50 per 50 pounds delivered. This compares with $1.75-$2.00 a year earlier.

Lower prices also prevailed in the fresh market. In early October quotations for 50-pound cartons of U.S. No. 1 Porto Rico type sweetpotatoes, f.o.b. Louisiana shipping points, averaged $5.90 per carton, compared with $7.05 at a comparable date a year earlier. Prices are expected to remain low throughout the season.

The average grower price for September was $7.87 per cwt., compared with $9.65 a year earlier. Usually prices advance seasonally, but these advances are expected to be less pronounced during the 1979/80 season. This should result in decreased acreage and somewhat higher prices next year.

SWEETPOTATOES: U.S. GROWER PRICES*



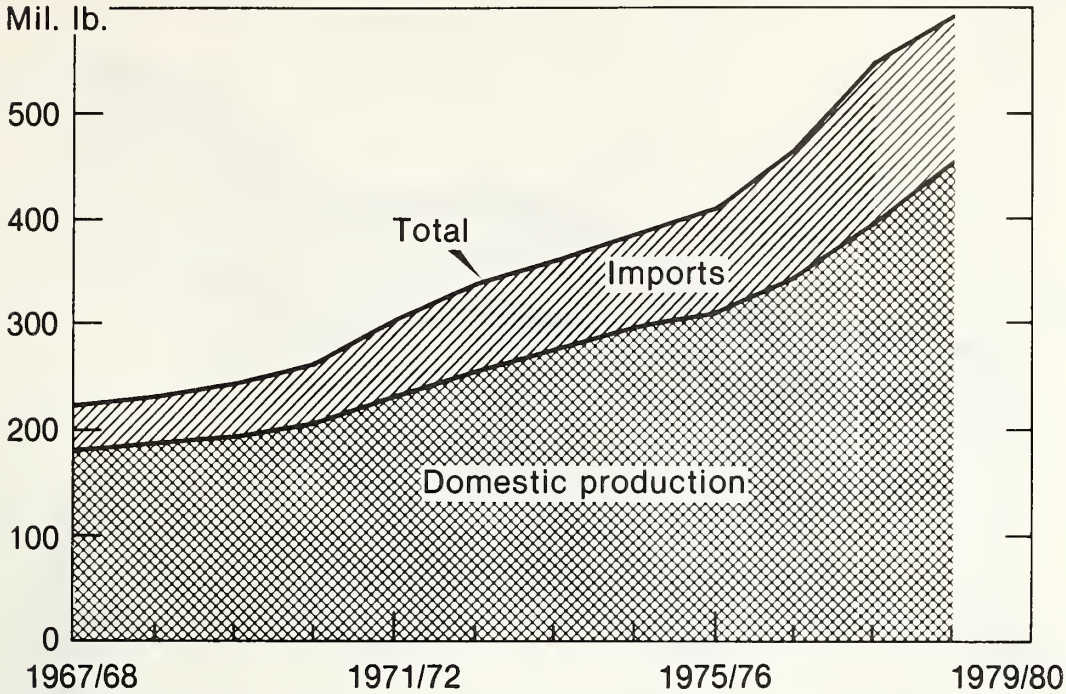
Pack of canned sweetpotatoes

Season	Million cases 24/303's
1971/72	10.1
1972/73	9.5
1973/74d	11.4
1974/75	12.8
1975/76	7.7
1976/77	8.0
1977/78	7.2
1978/79	9.4

MUSHROOMS

U.S. mushroom production set another record in 1978/79, moving up 13 percent over a year earlier to 452 million pounds. Pennsylvania, the leading State, grew 214 million pounds, or 47 percent of the U.S. production for the 1978/79 season. Pennsylvania's share of the U.S. total is declining as production in other States has increased in recent

Total Mushroom Supplies*



*Fresh equivalent basis.

years. The U.S. average yield of 3.08 pounds per square foot is 4 percent above the 1977/78 yield and the highest since annual data have been published.

Fresh market sales of mushrooms, at 228 million pounds, were up 19 percent from the 1977/78 season and accounted for 50 percent of the U.S. production. The average price received by growers reached 94.9 cents per pound, an increase of 4.8 cents over the previous season.

While fresh market use made substantial gains during this past season which ended on July 1, processing use also increased, rising to 224 million pounds, compared with 208 million in 1977/78 and 196 million a year earlier. The average price to growers for processing mushrooms moved down to 64.2 cents per pound in 1978/79 from 65.2 cents per pound in 1977/78 and 66.9 cents a year earlier. This may be an indication that the economic position of U.S. canners is weakening.

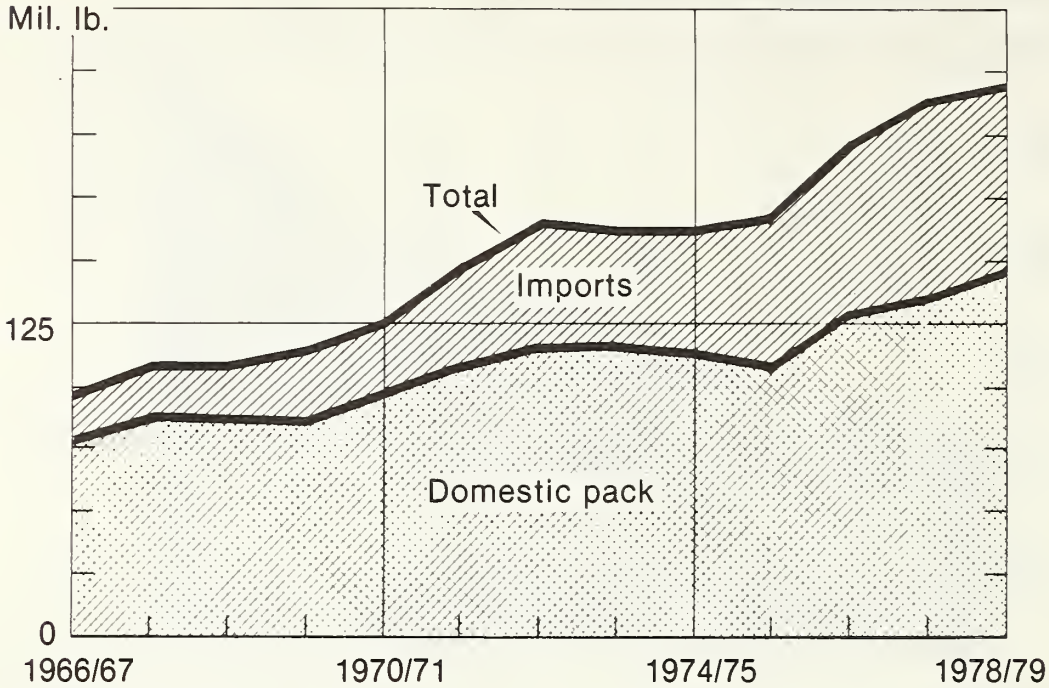
Mushrooms: Production, use, and value

Season	Output	Processing use	Fresh market	Farm value
	Million poundss			*Mn $*
1971/72	231	165	66	106.9
1972/73	254	177	77	110.0
1973/74	279	177	102	123.4
1974/75	299	173	126	147.2
1975/76	310	168	142	191.1
1976/77	347	196	151	255.7
1977/78	399	208	191	307.6
1978/79	452	224	228	360.3

The International Trade Commission (ITC), in their domestic canning pack monitoring program, noted that approximately 90 million pounds (product drained weight) were canned this past season. Although the processed use gained 8 percent according to the USDA report, the ITC report noted a decline from 94.6 million pounds a year earlier. This suggests other processing uses—soups, dried and frozen products—probably accounted for more of the domestic processing activity during 1978/79. The ITC report also noted that total canned imports fell to 86 million pounds in 1978/79.

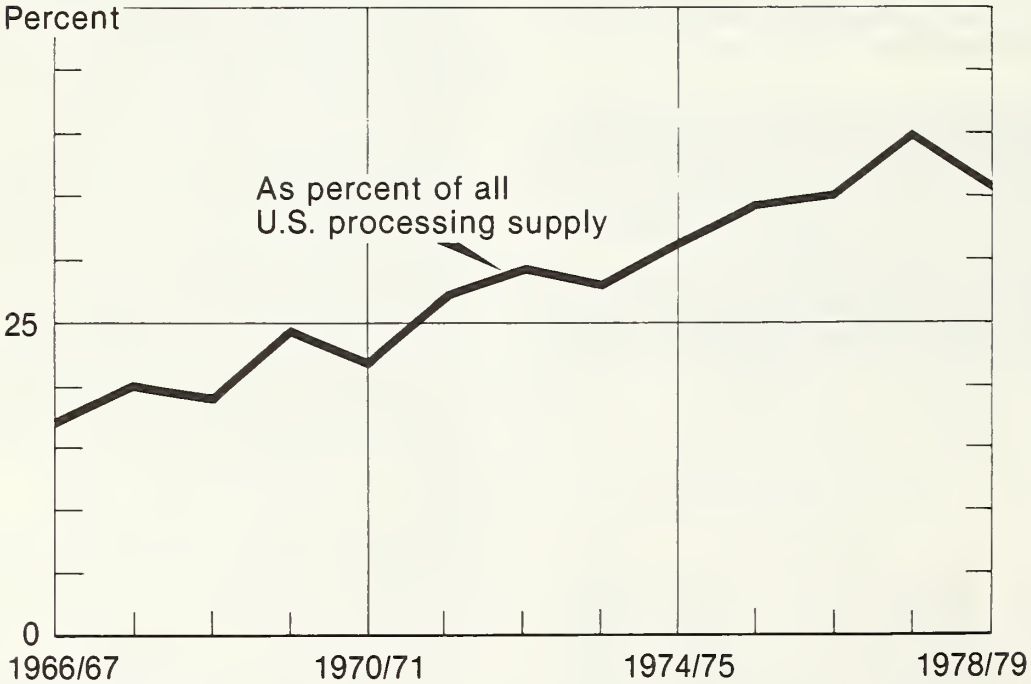
Per capita use of all mushrooms advanced to 2.7 pounds per person in 1978/79 (raw equivalent basis), up from 2.5 pounds a year earlier. Thus, the steady upward trend in mushroom consumption continued. Of the total consumption, it is estimated that 1.1 pounds were consumed fresh and 1.6 pounds were processed. Of the processed mushrooms consumed, about 1.1 pounds were processed

Processed Mushroom Supplies*



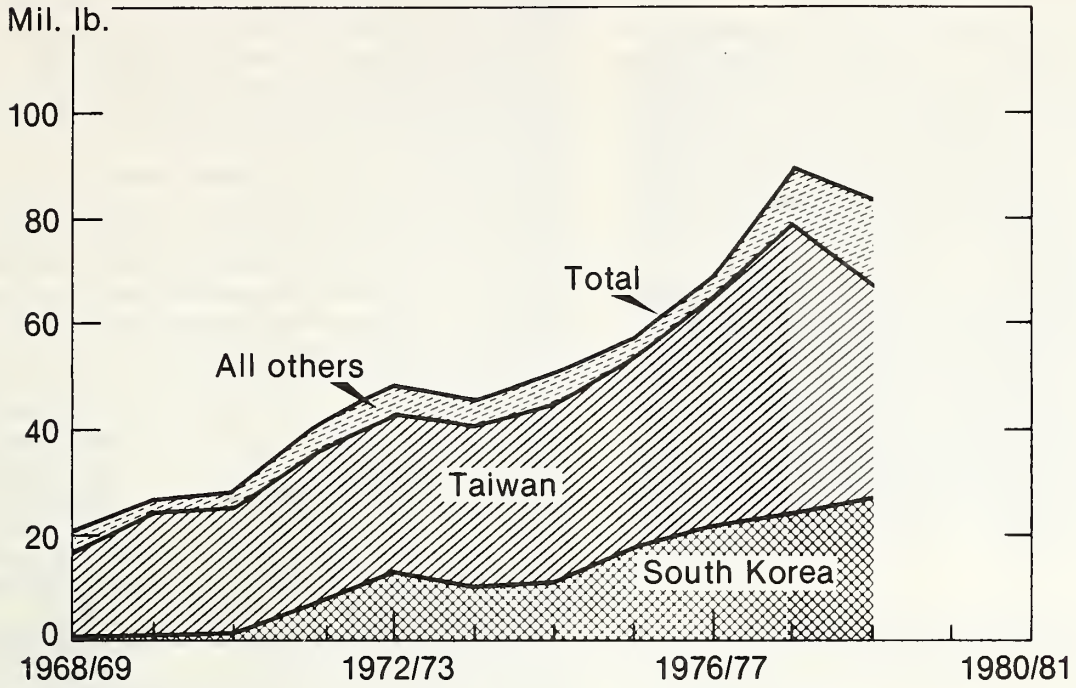
*Product weight basis.

Canned Mushroom Imports*



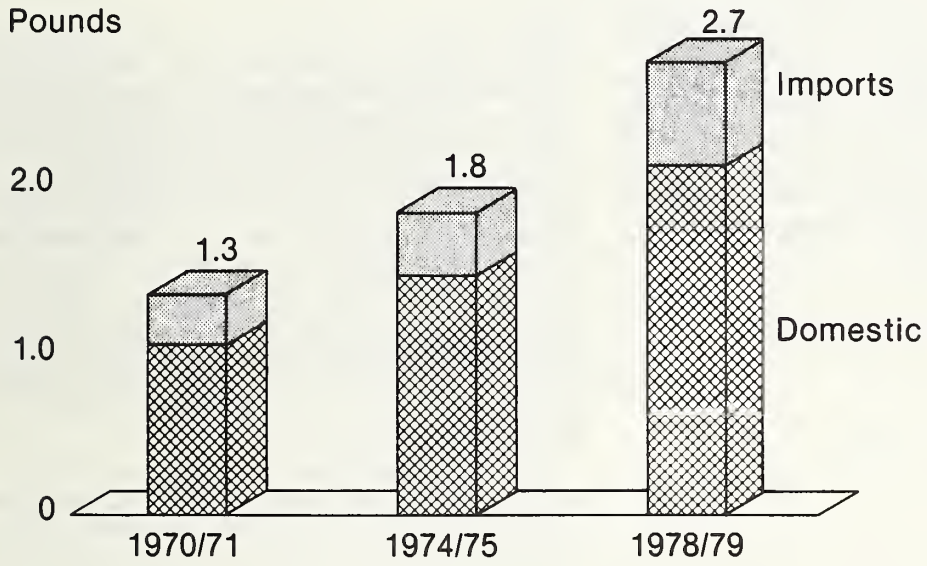
*Product weight.

Canned Mushroom Imports to USA*



*Product weight basis.

Mushroom Disappearance Per Capita* — United States



*Fresh weight basis.

domestically and about 0.5 pounds were imported.

Major suppliers of processed mushrooms are Taiwan and South Korea. Substantial quantities also are imported from Hong Kong.

The short-run prospect for 1979/80 suggests an increase of 6 percent in bedding space over the previous season. This rate of gain is less than in either of the previous two seasons. Should real incomes in the United States be lessened this fall and winter, mushroom demand would slacken. However, these would be short term abberations of the market, since the longer prospect is for continued growth.

Looking further into the 1980's, total and per capita consumption of mushrooms is expected to increase but possibly at a slower rate than during the 1970's. Most of the growth is expected in the fresh sector. During the 1979/80 marketing year, prices to growers for fresh mushrooms should average moderately above year-earlier levels. Prices for processing mushrooms may average about the same as this season or slightly lower depending on the import situation.

DRY EDIBLE BEANS

The dry bean crop for 1979/80 is estimated at 19.9 million cwt., 4 percent larger than in 1978 and one-fifth larger than in 1977. The crop will come from 1.38 million acres—7 percent less than a year earlier—but yields increased to 1,434 pounds per acre, 12 percent more than in 1978.

Dry weather in Michigan in September provided ideal harvesting conditions. Yields have been excellent, and the quality of the crop is very good. Some bean fields in California were damaged by high temperatures in September, but this aided the yields of Coastal Small Whites. Colorado yields are spotty, being below normal in the east, but above normal in the southwest. In Idaho, the quality of the crop is excellent. In general, nearly all States will have larger crops of beans, except Idaho, Kansas and Minnesota.

DRY BEANS: U.S. GROWER PRICES*

USDA

NEG. ESCS 3075-79 (10)

Average prices received by growers increased between March and July, but declined in August and September as the trade became aware of the larger crop in prospect. However, prices in September averaged $19.50 per cwt., a third above the 1978 low level. In view of the larger crop estimate for October, prices will probably decline from current levels and remain near last year's level of $16.30 per cwt. for the fourth quarter.

Among the major classes, dealer prices for Michigan pea beans showed an almost continuous upward trend from February, 1979—when the prices received by growers averaged about $16.40—until mid July when prices reached $25.75 per cwt. From this level prices declined to $21.00 per cwt. in mid-October. Prices can be expected to decline further if the export market develops slowly.

Prices for Great Northern beans followed a similar pattern. Prices rose from $20.00 per cwt. in January to a high of $27.75 per cwt. in July. Prices declined more slowly than prices for Michigan pea beans, but still edged down to $24.75 per cwt. in mid-October. Prices for great northern beans are expected to decline further but the annual average may be about the same as in 1978.

Pinto bean prices fluctuated in the $19.50-$21.50 range through the first quarter of calendar year 1979. Prices began to increase in May, and by late June had reached $27.00 per cwt. Prices declined erratically from that point and in mid-October were averaging about $24.25 per cwt. Prices are not expected to advance from this level during the fourth quarter of 1979.

Exports Up

Exports of dry edible beans for the September 1978/August 1979 marketing year were 250,600 metric tons, 24 percent over a year earlier. Exports of all white beans were virtually the same as the previous year with increased quantities of great northerns offsetting lower navy shipments. Navies were down following the large exports to the United Kingdom a year earlier necessitated by Canada's short crop. Colored bean exports were over two-thirds greater than the previous year resulting from large shipments of pinto beans to Angola, Mexico, the Netherlands, and Colombia. Red kidney, black, and other colored classes were also significantly larger.

The Dominican Republic lost at least 15 percent of its bean crop as a result of hurricane David and will import larger than normal quantities of pinto beans from the United States. Otherwise no unusual shortages have been noted for the rest of the world at this time and export prospects are not clear. As usual, the level of exports will have a strong impact on domestic prices for dry beans.

DRY EDIBLE PEAS

Supplies of dry peas will be adequate although somewhat below average levels this marketing season—the smaller crop being partially offset by a larger than normal carryover. Production is estimated at 2.1 million cwt., compared with 3.6 million cwt. in 1978, but only 1.0 million cwt. in 1977. Estimated acreage for harvest, at 140,000 acres, was 31 percent less than a year earlier. Average yields for the 2-State area of Washington and Idaho were expected to be 1,502 pounds per acre, down 281 pounds from a year earlier.

Dry weather during planting and unseasonally high temperatures during the growing season lowered yields in Idaho. Harvest was completed by the end of August and the quality of this year's crop is good.

Current prices reflect the some tightening of the supply and demand conditions. September grower prices averaged $10.60 per cwt., compared with $7.16 at the same time last year and $17.10 per cwt. in 1977 when we had the smallest crop on record.

According to the Pacific Northwest Pea Dealers Association, domestic use of dry peas during 1978/79 dropped to 73.3 million pounds from 79.4 million pounds a year earlier. Lentil use advanced to 23.6 million pounds, up from 16.0 million in 1977/78. With an ample supply of peas and lentils, last year exports during the September-August period rose to 184.6 million pounds, compared with 51.6 million pounds during the same period a year earlier. Lentil exports also rose during the September-August period from 18.2 million pounds in 1977/78 to 85.1 million pounds in 1978/79.

The export demand for lentils continues strong and it is expected that exports will at least equal last year's 40,232 tons. Prices to growers are also expected to average at least as high or perhaps higher this marketing year than last.

Table 1—Harvested acreage and production of commercial vegetables for processing

Commodity	Harvested acreage			Production			
	1977	1978[1]	For harvest 1979[1]	1977	1978[1]	Indicated 1979[1]	1979 as percentage of 1978
	1,000 acres			*1,000 tons*			*Percent*
Beans, lima	60.3	67.7	63.5	74.2	82.0	83.2	101
Beans, snap	257.6	258.2	283.2	675.5	669.2	773.2	116
Beets	14.4	16.6	16.9	206.2	210.8	236.4	112
Corn, sweet	454.0	429.1	414.0	2,376.2	2,426.2	2.330.0	96
Peas, green	350.5	354.8	389.9	489.0	460.2	526.6	114
Spinach (winter and spring)	19.2	17.1	18.7	144.8	118.7	153.0	129
Tomatoes	346.7	287.7	312.5	7.779.2	6.246.0	7.218.4	116
Total with production[2]	1,502.4	1,431.1	1,498.6	11,745.0	10,213.3	11,320.8	111
Cabbage for Kraut	10.5	9.9	N.A.	234.8	202.8	N.A.	N.A.
Cucumbers for pickles	123.8	118.2	N.A.	623.9	605.2	N.A.	N.A.
Spinach (fall)	1.5	2.5	N.A.	8.9	15.1	N.A.	N.A.
Total 9 vegetables[2]	1.638.1	1,561.7	N.A.	12,612.5	11,035.9	N.A.	N.A.

[1] Contract. [2] May not add to total due to rounding. N.A.—Not available.

Table 2—Fall potatoes: Production by areas, United States

Year	8 Eastern States	8 Central States	8[3] Western States	Fall total[1]
	Million cwt.			
1972	51	55	142	249
1973	49	57	148	254
1974	60	66	163	289
1975	48	55	175	278
1976	51	58	199	307
1977	50	68	189	307
1978	47	69	207	323
1979[2]	49	63	188	300

[1] May not add to total due to rounding. [2] Indicated as of October 1. [3] Nine states beginning 1974.

Data from Crop Production, ESCS, USDA, annual and monthly reports .

Table 3—Sweetpotatoes: Production by areas, United States

Area	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979[2]
	1,000 cwt.						
Central Atlantic[3]	1,529	1,527	1,523	1,456	1,200	1,364	1,295
Lower Atlantic[4]	4,124	4,633	5,135	5,213	5,159	6,092	6,359
Central[5]	5,575	6,073	5,545	5,585	4,866	5,453	5,627
California	928	1,106	1,022	1,178	1,170	1,392	1,568
Total	12,156	13,339	13,225	13,432	12,395	14,301	14,849

[1] Preliminary. [2] Indicated. [3] New Jersey, Maryland and Virginia. [4] North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. [5] Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas.

Data from Crop Production, ESCS, USDA, annual and monthly reports.

Table 4—Dry edible beans: Production by areas, United States[1]

Year	Michigan	New York	Northwest[2]	Southwest[3]	California	Other[4]	U.S. total[5]
	Million cwt.						
1973	5.1	.4	6.3	1.7	2.7	.1	16.3
1974	6.9	.5	7.1	1.7	4.0	.1	20.3
1975	4.7	.5	7.4	2.0	2.6	.2	17.4
1976	5.4	.4	7.2	1.9	2.8	.1	17.8
1977	5.7	.4	6.2	1.4	2.9	.1	16.6
1978	6.4	.4	7.3	1.7	3.2	---	19.1
1979[6]	6.9	.4	7.6	1.8	3.2	---	19.9

[1] Cleaned basis. [2] Minnesota, North Dakota, Nebraska, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, and Washington. [3] Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah. Beginning 1973 New Mexico discontinued. [4] Discontinued beginning 1978. [5] May not add to total due to rounding. [6] Indicated.

Data from Crop Production, ESCS, USDA, annual and monthly reports.

Table 5—Vegetables and melons for fresh market: Commercial acreage and production of principal crops, selected seasons, 1977, 1978, and indicated 1979

Seasonal group and crop	Acreage for harvest				Production			
	1977	1978	1979		1977	1978	1979	
			Indicated	Percentage of 1978			Indicated[1]	Percentage of 1978
	1,000 acres			*Percent*	*1,000 cwt.*			*Percent*
Winter	150.4	178.6	180.1	100	29.2	33.3	34.0	102
Spring	390.0	371.5	376.8	101	60.2	60.7	61.9	102
Summer	490.7	507.0	505.0	100	74.4	70.7	69.7	99
Fall:[2]								
Beans, snap	18.9	20.0	21.1	106	.7	.7	.8	114
Broccoli[3]	20.8	19.3	18.0	93	1.7	1.7	1.4	82
Cabbage[3]	28.1	28.7	28.6	100	8.5	8.1	8.0	99
Cantaloups	3.4	6.8	7.9	116	.4	.8	.9	113
Carrots[3]	21.2	23.6	25.4	108	7.8	7.0	7.9	98
Cauliflower[3]	15.1	18.1	14.6	81	1.8	1.8	1.5	83
Celery[3]	9.3	9.8	10.1	103	4.8	5.1	5.2	102
Corn, sweet	16.4	14.4	14.0	97	1.3	1.0	1.1	110
Cucumbers	15.5	16.2	13.8	85	1.5	1.8	1.3	72
Eggplant	1.0	1.1	1.2	109	.2	.2	.3	150
Escarole	1.8	1.7	1.8	106	.2	.2	.2	100
Honeydew melons	1.0	2.1	2.1	100	.2	.4	.4	100
Lettuce	60.7	64.0	61.4	96	13.7	13.7	13.6	99
Peppers, green[3]	14.5	14.4	14.3	99	1.7	1.6	1.6	100
Spinach	2.3	2.6	3.7	142	.2	.2	.3	150
Tomatoes	23.4	24.7	23.1	9.4	4.9	5.3	5.0	94
Total fall to date[4]	253.3	267.5	261.1	98	49.6	49.6	49.5	100
Total acreage and production reported to date[4]	1,284.4	1,324.5	1,322.9	100	215.3	214.2	215.2	100

[1] Based on average yield per acre. [2] October, November, and December. [3] Includes fresh market and processing. [4] May not add due to rounding.

Vegetables-Fresh Market, ESCS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 6—Vegetables, fresh: Representative prices (wholesale lots) at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No. 1 when available), indicated periods 1977 and 1978

Market and commodity	State of origin	Unit	Tuesday			
			1978		1979	
			Sept. 12	Oct. 17	Sept. 11	Oct. 16
			Dollars			
New York						
Broccoli	California	14's,crt.	9.60	--	9.50	10.50
Cabbage, domestic round type	New York	Various crates	4.15	4.00	3.50	3.50
Cantaloups	California	Jumbo crt. 36's	20.00	--	8.50	8.00
Carrots, topped washed	California	48 1-lb. film bag, ctn.	11.25	8.25	8.00	7.75
Cauliflower	Long Island	Crt. 12's	--	7.50	9.50	11.50
Celery, Pascal	New York	2-3 doz.	11.00	--	--	--
Celery, Pascal	California	2-3 doz.	14.50	16.00	7.50	8.00
Corn, sweet	New York	5 doz. crate	4.00	--	3.75	--
Cucumbers	Virginia	Bu. bskt.	--	8.00	--	13.50
Lettuce, Iceberg	California	2 doz. cnt.	6.25	7.75	8.75	8.50
Onions, yellow Spanish large	Idaho—Oregon	50 lb. sack	6.25	6.00	6.15	5.50
Onions, yellow globe medium	New York	50 lb. sack	4.50	2.75	4.25	3.25
Spinach, savory	New Jersey	Bu. bskt.	---	---	---	---
Chicago						
Beans, snap, green round green	Illinois	Bu. hamper	8.00	12.00	9.00	12.00
Broccoli	California	14's crt.	9.75	7.75	8.25	8.25
Cabbage, domestic round type	Illinois	Various crates	4.00	---	3.50	---
Cantaloups	California	Jumbo crt., 36's	6.50	8.25	7.25	8.50
Cauliflower	California	Ctns., film wrpd., 12's	8.50	7.75	9.00	10.00
Celery, Pascal	California	2-4 doz.	13.50	14.50	7.25	7.75
Cucumbers	Illinois	Bu. bskt.	9.50	---	7.50	---
Green Peppers	Illinois	Bu. bskt., lge.	9.50	12.00	---	9.50
Honeydews	California	Crts., 5-8's	5.50	5.50	6.50	5.50
Lettuce, Iceberg	California	2 doz. ctn.	6.50	5.75	7.25	8.63
Onions, yellow Spanish large	Idaho—Oregon	50 lb. sack	5.25	5.65	5.75	5.25
Onions, yellow globe medium	Midwestern	50 lb. sack	5.25	4.35	5.25	4.00
Tomatoes, green, ripes and turning, med--lge.	California	2 lyr. Lug	7.50	6.25	5.75	5.75

Weekly Summary of Terminal Market Prices, AMS, USDA.

Market News Reports.

Table 7—Vegetables, commercial for fresh market: Index numbers (unadjusted) of prices received by farmers, United States by months, 1964 to date[1]

Period	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Average
	(1967=100)												
1964	100	103	98	89	83	90	80	76	76	78	101	87	88
1965	78	83	97	107	127	103	84	77	78	87	89	87	91
1966	110	115	101	108	94	99	115	102	91	92	101	95	102
1967	100	94	96	110	104	128	109	84	80	88	101	104	100
1968	119	117	125	129	105	98	92	86	92	91	113	118	107
1969	104	109	113	110	118	97	97	94	90	111	151	130	110
1970	130	123	123	109	121	110	101	96	111	95	102	95	110
1971	111	116	149	135	126	127	119	101	99	121	172	138	126
1972	155	131	115	134	122	123	116	125	129	112	147	139	129
1973	155	154	170	200	190	190	179	131	125	122	127	129	156
1974	136	162	131	151	170	171	151	140	140	163	167	146	152
1975	169	169	166	177	169	204	178	157	159	159	174	189	173
1976	195	178	180	186	132	155	169	160	177	190	186	171	173
1977	237	253	263	219	182	150	169	160	166	180	212	175	197
1978	197	199	210	287	245	242	213	171	183	174	179	213	209
1979[2]	265	299	255	210	204	203	197	192	174				

[1] All prices reported of f.o.b. basis. [2] Preliminary.

Table 8—Canned vegetables: Commerical packs 1977 and 1978 and canners' and wholesale distributors' stocks 1978 and 1979 by commodities, United States

Commodity	Pack		Stocks					
			Canners			Wholesale distributors[1]		
	1977	1978	Date	1978	1979	Date	1978	1979
	1,000 cases 24/303's							
Major commodities								
Beans, snap	54,494	57,121	July 1	5,001	6,235	July 1	3,570	3,610
Beets	11,348	12,834	July 1	2,153	2,907	July 1	969	973
Corn, sweet	56,300	57,907	July 1	7,584	9,778	July 1	4,108	4,130
Peas, green	30,238	25,269	June 1	4,374	1,592	June 1	2,756	2,702
Sauerkraut	12,677	11,740	Aug. 1	2,324	2,160	July 1	624	—
Total	165,057	164,871		21,436	22,672		12,027	12,061
Tomato items								
Tomatoes	54,124	49,241	July 1	16,043	14,618	July 1	4,473	4,433
Tomato juice	27,844	33,920	July 1	5,544	2,162	July 1	2,152	—
Total	81,968	83,161		21,587	16,780		6,625	4,433
Other commodities								
Asparagus	3,705	3,382	Mar. 1	615	919	Apr. 1	391	431
Beans, lima	2,657	3,356	Aug. 1	290	—	July 1	N.A.	—
Field peas	2,223	2,364						
Carrots	5,973	6,609	July 1	2,113	2,131	July 1	672	690
Okra[3]	485	444						
Pickles	70,347							
Pimientos	407	376						
Pumpkin and squash	2,962	4,641	July 1	1,753	—	July 1	343	274
Potatoes	7,126							
Sweetpotatoes	7,194							
Spinach	7,108	6,214	Mar. 1	2,249	1,362	Apr. 1	651	609
Other greens	2,632	2,880						
Total comparable other items	112,819	30,266		7,020	4,412		2,057	2,004
Grand total comparable items	359,844	278,298		50,043	43,864		20,709	18,498

[1] Converted from actual cases to standard cases of 24 No. 303 cans. [2] Includes combination vegetable juices containing at least 70 percent tomato juice. [3] Okra, okra and tomatoes, and okra, corn, and tomatoes. N.A.—not available

Conners' stock and pack data from the National Food Processors Association pickles and sauerkraut pack ESCS derived, sauerkraut stocks National Kraut Packers Assoc. derived. Wholesale distributors' stock from the Bureau of Census.

Table 9—Vegetables, frozen: United States commercial packs 1977 and 1978, and cold storage holdings, Oct. 1 with comparisons

Commodity	Packs		Cold sorage holdings		
	1977	1978	Oct. 1, 1977	Oct. 1, 1978	Oct. 1, 1979[1]
	---Million pound---				
Asparagus	22	15	15	10	15
Beans, lima:					
Fordhook	45	38	23	31	42
Baby	92	81	45	61	66
Total	137	119	68	92	108
Beans, snap:					
Regular cut	142	161	120	142	149
French cut	83	95	55	70	75
Wax	6	7	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Total	231	263	175	212	224
Broccoli	314	277	92	94	94
Brussels sprouts	57	71	14	14	20
Carrots	264	239	56	78	82
Cauliflower	97	128	23	52	67
Corn, cut	261	303	256	254	271
Corn-on-cob	265	307	187	234	203
Mixed vegetables	([2])	([2])	27	33	44
Mushrooms	10	9	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Onions	153	154	22	23	22
Peas	334	358	319	335	374
Peas and carrots	([2])	([2])	9	11	11
Pumpkin and squash	25	25	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Rhubarb	9	5	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Southern greens[3]	82	72	24	28	15
Spinach	168	147	84	61	78
Okra	42	46	45	51	44
Peas, blackeye	36	37	13	15	13
Miscellaneous vegetables	116	137	171	194	198
Total[4]	2,623	2,712	1,600	1,791	1,883
French fried potatoes	3,134	3,265	518	560	588
Other frozen potatoes	488	583	93	85	102
Total frozen potatoes	3,623	3,849	611	645	690
Grand total[4]	6,246	6,561	2,211	2,436	2,573

[1] Preliminary. [2] Included in miscellanous vegetables. [3] Includes collards, kale, mustards, turnips green/turnips. [4] May not add due to rounding.

Pack data from American Frozen Food Institute. Stocks from Cold Storage Report, ESCS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 10—Vegetables, fresh: Average prices received by farmers, per hundredweight, United States, September 15, 1979 with comparisons

Commodity	1978		1979		
	August	September	July	August	September 1-15
	Dollars				
Beans, snap	23.50	23.80	25.60	25.00	26.40
Broccoli	---	---	---	---	---
Cabbage	7.60	7.27	6.90	5.15	5.55
Cantaloups	9.02	10.90	9.72	10.70	10.50
Carrots	16.10	13.50	11.10	11.40	10.00
Cauliflower	---	---	---	---	---
Celery	11.50	13.80	9.46	7.02	6.82
Corn, sweet	7.63	7.87	10.70	9.39	8.56
Cucumbers	9.85	11.00	10.80	11.80	11.60
Lettuce	5.61	7.62	5.57	9.40	7.89
Onions	9.24	7.13	13.70	9.67	8.11
Peppers, green	16.00	20.00	15.70	16.50	14.20
Spinach	---	---	---	---	---
Tomatoes	15.20	15.40	22.80	20.50	17.60
Watermelons	4.00	4.09	3.84	4.99	5.33

Agricultural Prices, ESCS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 11—Fresh and Processed Vegetables: Retail price, marketing margin, and farm value per unit, sold in New York City, indicated months, 1978 and 1979

Commodity, month, and retail unit	Retail[1] price	Marketing mergin		Farm value[2] [3]	
		Absoulute	Percentage of retail value	Absolute	Percentage of retail value
	Cents		*Percent*	*Cents*	*Percent*
Fresh:					
Carrots (Pound)					
July 1979	37.0	25.2	68	11.8	32
June 1979	36.5	24.7	68	11.8	32
July 1978	39.0	23.0	59	16.0	41
Celery (Pound)					
July 1979	44.3	28.3	64	16.0	36
June 1979	37.3	17.6	47	16.7	45
July 1978	47.0	24.6	52	22.4	48
Lettuce (Head)					
July 1979	74.0	62.6	85	11.4	15
June 1979	59.0	48.3	82	10.7	18
July 1978	69.0	53.1	77	15.9	23
Onions, dry yellow (Pound)					
July 1979	34.0	20.2	59	13.8	41
June 1979	26.0	15.4	59	10.6	41
July 1978	29.0	21.9	76	7.1	24
Processed:[4]					
Peas, Canned (303 can)					
Apr. 1979	48.0	40.4	84	7.6	16
Jan. 1979	47.0	39.4	84	7.6	16
Apr. 1978	42.0	34.5	82	7.5	18
Green, Beans, Frozen, (9 oz)					
Apr. 1979	57.0	52.2	92	4.8	8
Jan 1979	58.0	53.2	92	4.8	8
Apr. 1978	58.0	53.3	92	4.7	8
Tomatoes, canned (303 can)					
July 1979	55.0	50.0	91	5.0	9
April 1979	56.0	51.0	91	5.0	9
July 1978	53.0	48.2	91	4.8	9

[1] Division of Markets, State Department of Agriculture and Markets, NY. [2] For quantity of product equivalent to retail unit sold to consumers: Because of waste and spoilage during marketing, equivalent quantity exceeds retail unit. Fresh: F.O.B. shipping point price, processed: Equivalent packing housedoor returns. [3] Production areas; Carrots-California, Celery-California, Lettuce-California, Onions-Texas, Canned Peas-Minnesota and Wisconsin, Forzen Green Beans-Western State, Canned Tomatoes-Eastern States. [4] Priced quarterly.

Table 12—Potatoes, white: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, annual 1977, 1978, and indicated 1979

Season group	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Harvested		For harvest						
	1977	1978[1]	1979	1977	1978[1]	Indicated 1979	1977	1978[1]	Indicated 1979
	1,000 acres			*cwt.*			*1,000 cwt.*		
Winter	13.4	12.9	11.9	199	203	200	2,660	2,621	2,383
Spring	91.4	90.9	89.4	250	198	258	22,870	17,963	23,060
Summer	115.2	111.9	107.7	191	189	206	21,982	21,167	22,147
Fall									
8 Eastern	197.9	201.7	194.4	252	234	254	49,836	47,292	49,356
8 Central	322.3	316.4	295.8	210	219	215	67,772	69,276	63,464
9 Western	618.5	637.0	582.6	306	325	322	189,456	206,930	187,510
Total	1,138.7	1155.1	1072.8	270	280	280	307,064	323,498	300,330
United States	1,358.7	1370.8	1281.8	261	266	271	354,576	365,249	347,920

[1] Revised.

Crop production, ESCS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 13—Potatoes: Prices f.o.b. shipping points, per hundredweight, U.S. No. 1 grade or better, indicated periods, 1978 and 1979

Shipping point and variety	1978			1979		
	August 12	September 9	October 14	August 11	September 8	October 13
	Dollars					
New Jersey Round whites	4.95	3.70	4.50	4.25	4.25	4.64
Long Island, N.Y., Round whites	5.80	3.88	4.38	4.50	4.04	4.58
Michigan Round whites	5.26	3.94	4.06	3.80	3.34	3.76
Minnesota Reds	8.33	4.37	4.19	5.35	3.03	4.63
Colorado Reds	10.25	8.50	5.13	—	5.25	5.63
Washington Norgolds	11.20	8.37	7.75	6.95	6.00	6.75
Washington Russets	—	—	7.75	—	—	—

F.O.B. prices are simple averages of the range of daily prices for the week ended on indicated date. Compiled from Market News Service reports .

Table 14—Potatoes: U.S. average price received by farmers, per hundredweight, indicated periods, 1978 and 1979

	1978			1979		
	July	August	September	July	August	September
	Dollars					
U.S. farm price	7.41	5.44	3.61	4.57	3.69	3.27
Parity price	6.34	6.33	6.40	7.05	6.99	7.07
	Percent					
Price as percent of parity	117	86	56	60	56	46

Agricultural Prices, ESCS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 15—Sweetpotatoes: Acreage, yield per acre, and production annual 1977, 1978 and indicated 1979

	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Harvested		For harvest			Indicated			Indicated
	1977	1978	1979	1977	1978	1979	1977	1978	1979
	1,000 acres			*cwt.*			*1,000 cwt.*		
Central Atlantic[1]	9.6	10.2	10.0	125	134	130	1,200	1,364	1,295
Lower Atlantic[2]	40.8	45.2	47.4	126	135	134	5,159	6,092	6,359
Central[3]	54.2	54.6	55.3	90	99	102	4,866	5,453	5,627
California	7.8	8.5	9.5	150	164	165	1,170	1,392	1,568
United States	112.4	118.5	122.2	110	121	122	12,395	14,301	14,849

[1] New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia. [2] North Carolina, South Carolina, and Gergia. [3] Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas.

Crop Production, ESCS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 16—Sweetpotatoes: Prices f.o.b. shipping points and wholesale price (wholesale lots) at New York and Chicago, indicated periods 1978 and 1979

Item	State	Unit	Week ended			
			1978		1979	
			Sept. 9	Oct. 7	Sept. 8	Oct. 6
			Dollars			
F.o.b. shipping points:						
Porto Rico type, uncured	Eastern North Carolina points	U.S. no. 1 50 lb. crt.	6.81	5.88	6.00	4.92
Porto Rico type, uncured	Southern Louisiana points	U.S. no. 1 50 lb. crt.	7.75	7.05	6.75	5.90
Porto Rico type, Garnet	Stockton, California	40 lb. ctn.	---	9.30	9.40	8.20
			Tuesday			
			1978		1979	
			Sept. 12	Oct. 3	Sept. 11	Oct. 2
			Dollars			
Terminal markets						
New York						
Porto Rico, uncured	North Carolina	50 lb. ctn.	7.75	6.25	7.50	7.00
Chicago						
Porto Rico, uncured	Louisiana	50 lb. ctn.	9.00	7.75	8.75	8.25

F.o.b. prices are simple averages of the range of daily prices, compiled from Market News Service reports. The market prices are representative prices for Tuesday of each week and are submitted by the Market News Service representative at each market.

Table 17—U.S. average price per hundredweight received by farmers for sweetpotatoes, dry edible beans, and dry field peas, indicated periods, 1978 and 1979

Commodity	1978			1979		
	July	August	September	July	August	September
	Dollars					
Field crops:						
Sweetpotatoes	16.70	13.10	9.65	16.80	10.20	7.87
Beans, dry edible	17.60	17.00	14.60	22.20	20.80	19.50
Peas, dry field	9.07	7.89	7.16	10.80	11.00	10.60

Agricultural Price, ESCS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 18—Dry edible beans: Supply and disposition[1]

Marketing season beginning September 1	Supplies				Utilization			
	Beginning stocks Sept.	Production	Imports[2]	Total	Domestic disappearance	Exports[3]	Total disappearance	Ending stocks Aug. 31
	Million cwt.							
Average								
1955-59	1.6	17.5	.1	19.2	14.9	3.1	18.0	1.2
1960-64	1.6	18.5	.1	20.2	15.7	2.7	18.6	1.6
1965	1.2	16.5	.1	17.8	14.2	2.4	16.6	1.2
1966	1.2	20.0	.1	21.3	15.3	3.8	19.1	2.2
1967	2.2	15.2	.1	17.5	14.4	2.0	16.4	1.1
1968	1.1	17.4	.1	18.6	14.4	2.7	17.1	1.5
1969	1.5	18.9	.1	20.5	14.5	4.3	18.8	1.7
1970	1.7	17.4	.1	19.2	14.2	3.3	17.5	1.7
1971	1.7	15.9	.1	17.7	13.8	2.8	16.6	1.1
1972	1.1	18.1	.2	19.4	14.0	3.9	17.9	1.5
1973	1.5	16.4	.7	18.6	14.0	3.3	17.3	1.3
1974	1.3	20.3	.1	21.7	14.5	5.1	19.6	2.1
1975	2.1	17.4	.3	19.8	14.2	2.7	16.9	2.9
1976	2.9	17.8	.2	20.9	13.9	4.0	17.9	3.0
1977	3.0	16.6	.2	19.8	13.7	4.5	18.2	1.6
1978	1.6	19.1	.2	20.9	14.0	5.0	19.0	1.9
1979[4]	1.9	19.8	.2	21.9				

[1] Source: ESCS, Bureau of the Census. [2] Imports include Garbanzos and all beans for seed purposes but exclude Mung Beans. [3] Exports include Garbanzos, baked beans, all beans for seed purposes and donations to welfare agencies for foreign relief. [4] Preliminary.

Table 19—Beans, dry edible: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, annual 1977, 1978, and indicated 1979[1]

Group, States and classes	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production[1]		
	Harvested		For harvest						
	1977	1978	1979	1977	1978	Indicated 1979	1977	1978	Indicated 1979
	1,000 acres			*pounds*			*1,000 cwt.*		
Michigan	480	560	490	1,180	1,150	1,100	5,664	6,440	5,390
New York	32	42	40	1,100	1,020	1,120	352	428	448
Northwest[3]	430	488	464	1,453	1,499	1,608	6,248	7,315	7,461
Southwest[4]	163	194	193	864	900	940	1,409	1,746	1,815
California:									
Large lima	31	29	26	1,742	1,500	1,692	540	434	440
Baby lima	22	25	27	2,160	1,960	2,037	475	489	550
Other	116	156	144	1,610	1,450	1,514	1,872	2,265	2,180
Total California	169	210	197	1,708	1,515	1,609	2,887	3,188	3,170
Other States	6	[5]	[5]	847	[5]	[5]	50	[5]	[5]
United States[6]	1,280	1,494	1,384	1,294	1,279	1,321	16,560	19,117	18,284

[1] Includes beans grown for seed. [2] Cleaned basis. [3] Nebraska, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Washington, Minnesota, and North Dakota. [4] Kansas, Colorado, and Utah. [5] Estimated discontinued beginning 1978. [6] May not add due to rounding ..

Crop Production, ESCS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 20—Peas, dry field: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, annual 1977, 1978 and indicated 1979

State	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Harvested		For harvest			Indicated			Indicated
	1977	1978	1979	1977	1978	1979	1977	1978	1979
	1,000 acres			*Pounds*			*1,000 cwt.*		
Idaho	67	82	55	840	1,830	1,350	563	1,501	743
Washington	100	120	85	460	1,750	1,600	460	2,100	1,360
United States	167	202	140	613	1,783	1,502	1,023	3,601	2,103

[1] In principal commercial producing States. Includes peas grown for seed and cannery peas harvested dry. [2] Cleaned basis.

Crop Production, ESCS, USDA, issued monthly.

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